

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-34 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Turkey for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$259 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-34

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Turkey.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$0 million.

Other \$259 million.

Total \$259 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

None

Non-MDE: The Government of Turkey has requested to buy defense articles and services to support upgrading its fleet of F-16 aircraft, to include software upgrades of the Operational Flight Program (OFP) avionics with the Automatic Ground Collision Avoidance System (AGCAS) capability; hardware modifications to enable integration of the Multifunctional Information Distribution System Block Upgrade II (MIDS BU II), procured separately; hardware and software upgrades to include aircraft major modification; both classified and unclassified software and software support; integration and test support; support equipment; training and training equipment; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (TK-D-VAL).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: TK-P-LKT, TK-D-SFA, TK-D-SLA, TK-D-SMB, TK-D-NCU.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 17, 2023.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Turkey—F-16 Avionics Upgrade

The Government of Turkey has requested to buy defense articles and services to support upgrading its fleet of F-16 aircraft, to include software upgrades of the Operational Flight Program (OFP) avionics with the Automatic Ground Collision Avoidance System (AGCAS) capability; hardware modifications to enable integration of the Multifunctional Information Distribution System Block Upgrade II (MIDS BU II), procured separately; hardware and software upgrades to include aircraft major modification; both

classified and unclassified software and software support; integration and test support; support equipment; training and training equipment; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$259 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Black Sea region.

The proposed sale will improve Turkey's capability to meet current and future threats by providing a critical flight safety and tactical integration capability to assist in defending its homeland and U.S. personnel stationed there. Turkey has demonstrated a willingness to modernize its F-16 capabilities since it purchased the aircraft in the mid-1980s, and will have no difficulty absorbing these capabilities into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company of Fort Worth, TX. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this sale will not require the assignment of U.S. Government or contractor representatives in Turkey.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-34

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Automatic Ground Collision Avoidance System capability is used as a flight safety mitigation tool in order to reduce incidents of controlled flight into terrain and ground collisions, which account for seventy-five percent of F-16 pilot fatalities worldwide. The system consists of a series of collision avoidance and autonomous decision-making algorithms that utilize precise navigation, aircraft performance, and digital terrain data to determine if a collision is imminent. If the system determines a collision is imminent, the system commands an autonomous maneuver to prevent impact, although the pilot may override this functionality.

2. The highest level of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is CONFIDENTIAL.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Turkey.

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO §620C(d) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961, AS AMENDED

Pursuant to Section 620C(d) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (the Act), Executive Order 12163 and State Department Delegation of Authority No. 245-2, I hereby certify that the furnishing to Turkey of defense articles and services to support upgrading F-16 aircraft is consistent with the principles contained in Section 620C(b) of the Act.

This certification will be made part of the notification to Congress under Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, regarding the proposed sale of the above-named articles and services and is based on the justification accompanying such notification, of which such justification constitutes a full explanation.

NATIONAL RENDERING DAY

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of National Rendering Day.

As ranking member of the Senate Agriculture Committee and a voice for Arkansas farmers and ranchers, I have seen firsthand their dedication to producing the most affordable, abundant, and safe supply of food in the world. That responsibility extends beyond the farm, with rendering playing a critical role in ensuring we can meet the growing global demand for food, feed, and fuel.

U.S. renderers contribute \$10 billion in annual economic activity. These include many small businesses which are the backbones of our economy. Utilizing innovative technologies and a highly skilled workforce, renderers reclaim otherwise wasted animal material such as protein, bone, and fat, as well as used cooking oil from restaurants.

For hundreds of years, renderers have been upcycling the unused materials into higher-value applications including pet food, biofuels, soaps, gels, and candles in addition to fertilizer. By reducing the amount of waste sent to landfills, rendering makes our food production footprint smaller and helps minimize the environmental impacts of animal agriculture and food production.

In Arkansas, there are many successful rendering companies, and I am grateful for the jobs they create and their proficiency in generating useful products for consumers. We celebrate the inaugural National Rendering Day on April 21 and recognize the countless contributions of the industry to protecting the environment, delivering sustainable solutions, and growing the economy. I am pleased to join this special acknowledgment to help bring awareness to reducing and eliminating food waste through rendering and promote rendered products as a sustainable choice for our planet.

TRIBUTE TO JIMMY STRINGER

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I am pleased to commend Jimmy Stringer, a dedicated member of my personal staff who left my office recently to return to my home State of Mississippi. Jimmy merits commendation for his contributions and dedicated service throughout his role in public service, as well as a member of my personal office staff.

A native of Madison, MS, Jimmy earned his bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University. Jimmy's

humble beginnings in the U.S. Government started as an intern for the late Senator Cochran, my predecessor.

Following that, Jimmy's career turned to the Pentagon, where he supported the Air Force in its day-to-day operations. His outstanding service there earned him the Secretary of the Air Force Technical and Analytical Support Top Performer Award.

After 2 years at the Pentagon, Jimmy decided to focus his service closer to home, accepting an opportunity to serve as military legislative assistant in the office of Congressman Gregg Harper of Mississippi.

Jimmy's service in the House of Representatives led him to the U.S. Senate, where he became the military legislative assistant for my office, where he excelled and eventually earned the additional title and responsibilities of deputy legislative director.

Jimmy's contributions throughout his tenure in public service have been truly invaluable to the legislative and administrative functions of my office, and his insightful input will be missed.

I, along with the rest of my office, have benefited from Jimmy's knowledge, experience, and leadership.

Anyone who has had the opportunity to meet and visit with Jimmy would agree he is a hard-working, courteous, and intelligent young man.

Jimmy's strong sense of responsibility, good judgment, and a pleasant demeanor set him apart as a leader in our office and proved time and time again to be an asset for the people of Mississippi.

In fact, Jimmy has always put Mississippi first. No matter the situation or how high the stakes, the needs of the State came first. While many have been caught up in the demands of Washington, DC, politics, Jimmy's focus has always remained hundreds of miles south of the beltway. Mississippians knew if they had a problem, Jimmy Stringer would help them find a solution.

Mississippi and our Nation have been well-served by the diligence, dedication, and commitment to excellence Jimmy Stringer provided on a daily basis. He has put forth his best efforts to reflect credit on our military, the House of Representatives, my State, and the U.S. Senate.

I will miss Jimmy's astute counsel. He has my appreciation and gratitude for the notable job he has done throughout his time here in Washington, especially within my office.

I wish Jimmy, his wonderful wife Frances, and beautiful daughter Price God's continued blessings and all the best in their future endeavors.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING SCHUMACHER ELEVATOR COMPANY

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee

on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Schumacher Elevator Company of Denver, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

The company was founded by William and Bertha Schumacher in 1936 under the name Wm. Schumacher & Sons. That same year, William built the Schumacher Machine Shop in Denver, IA. With his son Elmer, they designed, built, and installed a custom lift for feed bags for a chicken hatchery in Waverly, IA. In the beginning of the company's history, they sold and manufactured many different types of elevators including lifting platforms, dumbwaiters, and freight elevators. In 1966, Elmer's son Marvin "Marv" joined the company as president and began to include passenger elevators in their line of products. A fourth generation of Schumacher, Jeff, joined the company in 1993 as the CFO and vice president of sales and administration. Jeff now serves as the CEO, and his parents Marv and Helen serve as the president and vice president of administration, respectively. Today, the company has enjoyed immense success and currently employs over 250 highly trained individuals throughout the Midwest and strives to be a premier independent elevator company in the United States.

Schumacher Elevator Company currently manufactures and sells hydraulic, traction, personal, and manlift elevators while also providing installation, maintenance, and testing services. They also make custom elevators for customers, and they have the expertise to install elevators for new construction projects, modernize old elevator systems, repair broken elevators, and do preventative maintenance. In addition to quality, Schumacher Elevator Company is fast. The team can create an elevator from raw materials to a finished product just in 1 week.

Schumacher Elevator Company is a staple of the Denver community. They offer two scholarships for students at the Denver High School: One is for a student that goes into the healthcare industry, and the other is for a student that goes into a technology field of study. In addition to this, the Marvin and Helen Schumacher Family Fund engages in philanthropic efforts throughout Iowa. The company encourages their employees to give back to the community, as well. Last December, a group of employees made a generous donation to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank that provided 4,000 meals to Iowans in need.

Schumacher Elevator Company's commitment to being trailblazers in the elevator industry is clear. In 87 years, the Schumacher family has been able to provide the highest quality elevators to satisfied clients globally. I want to congratulate the entire team at Schumacher Elevator Company and commend them for their dedication to

excellence in their work both locally in Iowa and around the world. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOHN H. CALLAHAN

• Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, CAPT John Callahan is a native of Tampa, FL, and presently assigned to Naval Medical Readiness and Training Command Pensacola, FL.

He began his career by enlisting in October 1982 and completing Navy Boot Camp, Great Lakes, IL; Fleet Marine Force Training, Camp Pendleton, CA; and, Preventive Medicine Technician School, Oakland, CA.

His enlisted assignments include Naval Hospital Pensacola, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133, and Disease Vector Ecology Control Center Jacksonville, FL. His enlisted deployments include U.S.S. *Lexington*; U.S.S. *Ashland*; Rota, Spain; Okinawa, Japan; Pohang, South Korea; and, Subic Bay, Philippines.

In 1995, he was promoted to chief petty officer, a significant highlight of his enlisted career. After selection to the Medical Service Corps In-Service Procurement Program, he completed the Tri-Service Physician Assistant Program, graduating magna cum laude George Washington University bachelor of science, resulting in commission as an ensign in 1998. In 2004, he was awarded the master of physician assistant studies, family medicine, from the University of Nebraska, graduating summa cum laude.

His officer assignments include Naval Hospital Puerto Rico; Naval Branch Medical Clinic Meridian, MS; Naval Branch Medical Clinic Indian Head, MD; Naval Branch Medical Clinic Naval Air Station, Pensacola; Naval Branch Medical Clinic Naval Air Technical Training Center, Pensacola; Naval Hospital Pensacola; and Naval Hospital Rota Spain. In addition, while leading Medium Medical Team No. 5, he recently provided extended COVID relief and support for Billings Clinic in Montana and Bellin Clinic in Green Bay, WI. His commissioned deployments include Al Anbar Province, Iraq; Djibouti, Africa; Combined Forces Special Operations Command—Forward, Qatar; and Combined Task Force 53, Bahrain.

He is the only hand-selected physician assistant to serve upon special joint congressional details—State of the Union 2006, State of the Union 2008, Presidential Inauguration 2009, State of the Union 2010, Presidential Inauguration 2013, and State of the Union 2023. Interim dates of special joint congressional details were precluded due to operational service obligations.

In 2019, he was selected for captain, a significant achievement of his naval career. His military decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (6 awards), Navy and